# Presentation to Task Force on Structural Change Budget Methods and Reforms: Making Better Decisions

Dr. Jim Richardson

Alumni Professor of Economics and
Public Administration

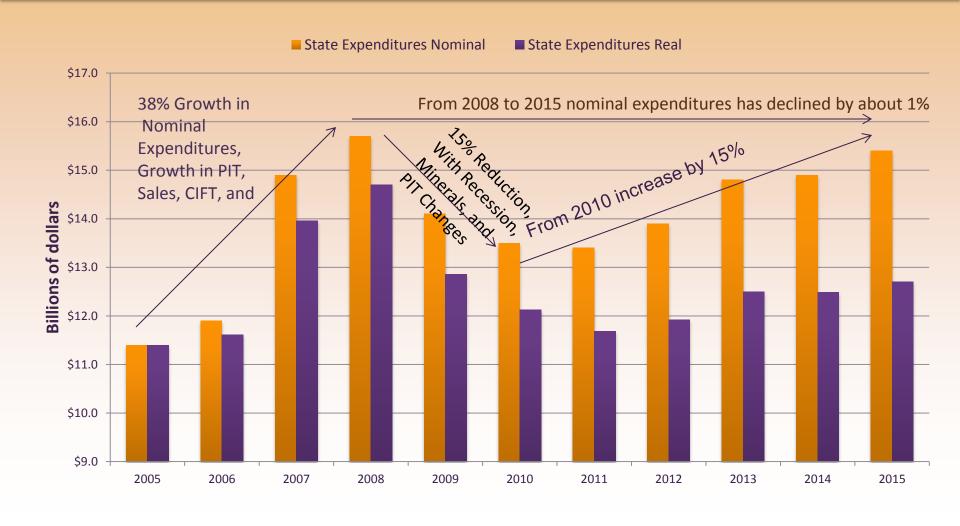
Louisiana State University



## **Budgeting Process**

- Budgeting Process is Ongoing.
- Process for fiscal 2018 is about to start
- Process includes
  - Chief Executive will state his/her chief goals
  - Projection of autonomous inputs such as inflation, population of service groups, etc.
  - Projection of costs of program—salaries, services, etc.
  - Different Sources of Revenues
  - Procedures for all agencies to follow
  - Time schedule to be followed
  - Starting point: last year's budget, a stated amount, etc.
- Budget Justification: What will program do for state

# Nominal and Real State Expenditures, 2005 - 2015



# Comparison of Sources of Funds

Year	State General Fund	Fees and Self- Generated	Statutory Dedications	Federal
1997	45.6%	11.9%	11.5%	31.0%
2005	38.2%	12.3%	15.6%	33.8%
2008	34.9%	7.8%	13.9%	43.4%
2013	33.6%	9.1%	13.0%	44.4%

# Comparison of Expenditures

Year	BESE/MFP	Higher Education	Health and Hospitals	Public Welfare	Transpor- tation	Others
1997	22.4%	15.0%	38.6%	5.8%	2.6%	15.6%
2005	23.5%	13.3%	37.4%	5.7%	2.4%	17.8%
2008	19.2%	10.1%	27.0%	4.0%	1.8%	37.8%
2013	22.5%	12.5%	39.1%	3.3%	2.2%	20.2%

# <u>Using Budgeting Process to</u> <u>Make Better Choices:</u>

**And Budgeting is About Making Choices** 

FOCUS ON WHAT ARE WE GETTING, NOT JUST WHAT WE ARE BUYING

# **Budgeting Alternatives**

- Traditional Performance Budgeting
- Planning, Programming, Budgeting—
   1960s
- Zero-Based Budgeting—1970s
- Performance Based Budgeting
  - Model 1
  - Model 2
  - Model ???

#### Performance Budgeting

- Agency lays out budget—its request for dollars
- Agency notes its performance—what is being accomplished
- Establishing performance objectives
- Some decisions based on projected costs alone
  - Medicaid expansion under Jindal
  - Medicaid Expansion under Edwards
- Major decisions based on other factors—major changes in charity hospitals in Louisiana

- Measuring performance
- "Medicare Proposal Takes Aim at Diabetes"
  - http://nyti.ms/22E94dj
  - Testing proposal before enacting
- GRAD Act, Board of Regents entered into six-year agreement with each of the participating institutions in exchange for tuition authority
  - Focus on student-mission
  - How about research-mission

#### **Budgeting Alternative**

- Zero-Based Budgeting
- Budget for 2018 is constructed without reference to 2017 budget
- Idea was to implement a review of entire budget and not just the increments being requested
- ZBB makes you reconsider your priorities and programs
- Not practical in many ways
  - public institutions have long-term missions
  - improve at the margin
  - Time involved—is ZBB an effective budgeting technique?
- Has not been used much since the Carter Years at the federal level
- Local governments may use to some extent
- State governments have not spent much time on ZBB

- Performance Base Budgeting
- <u>Re-inventing Government: David</u>
   Osborne and Ted Gaebler, early 1990s
- Focus Is on what is being provided to society, not how it is being provided
- Multi-year plans identifying fundamental mission of agency with
  - Mission statement
  - Goals and objectives
  - How goals will be accomplished
  - Outside factors that may affect accomplishment of goals
  - Program evaluations of programs
- Annual performance plans
- Performance reports made to appropriate committees

## Use of Benefit-Cost Analysis

- Public programs have multi-year time dimensions
  - Building a bridge—used for 50 years
  - Environmental improvement—forever
  - School building—multi-year development
- Similar to firm making investment
- Costs are incurred over time
  - One time costs—construction
  - Recurring costs-maintenance
- Benefits accrue over time

## Use of Benefit-Cost Analysis

#### Issues

- Costs are typically known-especially upfront costs and even maintenance are somewhat predictable
- Benefits are not as easily quantifiable
- Choice of the appropriate discount rate
- \$1,000,000 to be received in 20 years
  - Value today if discount rate is 2%: \$672,971
  - Value today if discount rate is 10%: \$148,643
- Benefit-cost analysis can give guidance, but cannot provide indisputable answers

# Appropriate Budgeting Processes Assist Us in Making Better Decisions

But Budgeting models do not replace the importance of decision-making by public officials nor provide the fundamental values of society